



St. Jerome's most famous letter (*Libellus de virginitate servanda*), written to St. Eustochium, the sixteen-year-old daughter of the Roman widow St. Paula. St. Jerome exhorts St. Eustochium to embrace virginity and teaches her the proper conduct of a young woman. It contains his:

1. view that God, though omnipotent, cannot restore a fallen virgin (§5)
  2. vivid description of fasting and temptation (§7)
  3. view of abortion, that it is murder (§13)
  4. term *superbiam sanctam*, virginity a "holy pride" (§16)
  5. praise of wedlock, that it gives him virgins (§20)
  6. further reading recommendations on virginity (§22)
  7. "Do you read? He [God] speaks to you." (§25)
  8. dream where the Judge condemns him a Ciceronian, not a Christian (§30)
  9. description of the three types of monasticism (§§34-36)
- Summary by Geremia

Read by Geremia. Total running time: 02:07:32

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